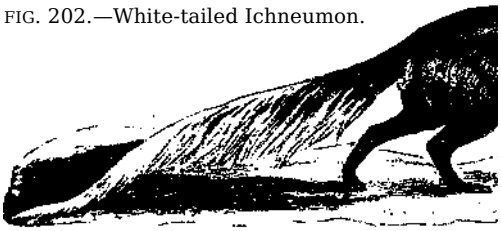
sometimes raised to generic rank as *Vrvct,* is partly aquatic **in** habit ; it feeds upon crabs and frogs, but is quite willing to take to poultry and their eggs.

Selggale is a genus whose validity appears doubtful (to **Dr. Mivart).** It is African, and contains two species.

FIG. 202.—White-tailed Ichneumon.



Cynictis is an African genxis, with five digits on the fore-limbs and four on the hind. As in *Herpestes,* the orbit is completely encircled by bone. There is but a single species, *C. penicillata,* which is of a reddish colour and has a bushy tail.

JSdeogale, also African, has the toes still further reduced; there are only four on both limbs. The tarsus is hairy and the tail bushy. They are " very rare animals, and nothing is known of their habits." It is known, however, that they will kill poisonous snakes, for Dr. Peters took a Rhinoceros "Viper out of the stomach of one.

*SJiyncTiogale ** differs from all other genera of "Viverridae, except *Orossarclius* and *Suricata,* in having no groove upon the muzzle. There are five digits. There is the full Viverrine dentition, with five preraolars in the upper jaw ; but this may be an abnormality.[2]

Orossarchus differs from the last in only having three pre-molars on each side of each jaw. It is also African, and there

are several species.

Suricata is the last genus of Viverridae; it is also African, and contains a single species, *Suriccuta, tetradactylcc,,* the "Meerkat" of the Cape. The Suricate has but four toes on each foot; the tarsus and the metatarsus are naked below. The body is banded posteriorly. There are fifteen dorsal vertebrae, and the orbit is

[1] **The original name was *JKhinogale.***

***That it is aa abnormality has been recently stated.**